

**REMARKS**

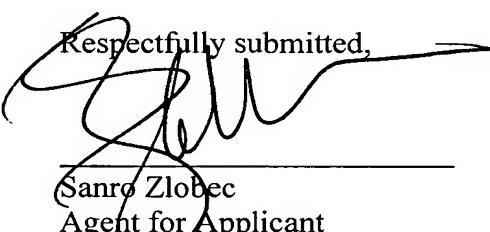
Applicant is of the view that claims 1-24, 27-32 and 34-40, are in allowable form. Favourable consideration is requested. Early allowance of the Application is earnestly solicited.

Claims are amended to conform with the claim amendments entered during the international phase chapter II on March 29, 2005.

If the application is not considered to be in full condition for allowance, for any reason, the Applicant respectfully requests the constructive assistance and suggestions of the Examiner in drafting one or more acceptable claims pursuant to MPEP 707.07(j) or in making constructive suggestions pursuant to MPEP 706.03 so that the application can be placed in allowable condition as soon as possible and without the need for further proceedings.

Date: April 20, 2006

Respectfully submitted,

  
Sandro Zlobec  
Agent for Applicant  
Reg. No. 52,535

SMART & BIGGAR  
1000 De La Gauchetière Street West  
Suite 3300  
Montreal, Quebec, H3B 4W5  
CANADA  
Telephone: (514) 954-1500  
Fax: (514) 954-1396